



The Tartan Times

Vol. LXII, No. 4

Mar/Apr, 2014

*The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Boston Branch
c/o The Folk Arts Center of New England
10 Franklin Street, Stoneham, MA 02180-185*

RSCDS

Boston Highland Ball Saturday, May 10, 2014
Memorial Hall 590 Main St., Melrose, MA

The Boston Highland Ball 2014

EH3 7AF	8 x 32J 3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 40: 6
The Sheltered Cove	8 x 32S 2 cpls.	Zadworny: Aye Afloat:6
Maxwell's Rant	8 x 32R 3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 18: 10
The Waratah Weaver	4 x 32J 4 cpls.	RSCDS 2 nd Graded Book: 4
Gang the Same Gate	8 x 32S 3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 36: 4
General Stuart's Reel	8 x 32R 3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 10: 3
Best Set in the Hall	8 x 32J 3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 46: 7
Culla Bay	4 x 32S 4 cpls. Sq. Set	RSCDS Book 41: 2
Flights of Fancy	8 x 32J 3 cpls.	Boston 50 th : 3
Catch the Wind	8 x 32R 3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 45: 5
The Spirit of the Dance	8 x 32S 3 cpls.	TAC, 50 th Anniversary: 2
John of Bon Accord	8 x 32R 3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 33: 5
Yan, Tan, Tethera	8 x 32J 3 cpls.	Haynes, Carnforth 2: 9
Moment of Truth	8 x 32S 3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 37: 2
The Irish Rover	8 x 32R 3 cpls.	Cosh, 22 SCD + 2: 22
Jubilee Jig	8 x 32J 3 cpls.	RSCDS Leaflet: 19
Linnea's Strathspey	8 x 32S 3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 47: 2
Da Rain Dancin'	8 x 32R 3 cpls.	Wallace: From the Redwood Forest: 3

Music by

Hanneke Cassel-fiddle, Mike Block-cello,
Neil Pearlman-piano

MCs

Donna Griffith, Mel Briscoe, Martha Kent

Reception 5:30	Admission includes \$1 for the Memorial Hall
Dinner 6:30	Restoration Fund
Grand March 8:00	\$ 75 branch members \$80 nonmembers
Ball 8:15	\$50 full time students/non dancers

See www.rscdsboston.org for cribs, applications, directions, Welcome Dance, and Brunch information as they become available



Memorial Day Weekend Party

May 24, 2014 American Legion Hall, Belfast, Maine

Potluck supper at 6:30
\$1.00 plus a Pot
Dancing at 8:00 \$11.00
RSCDS Members \$9.00



MUSIC BY

ELKE BAKER



* *Welcome to Belfast*

It's All Right	32J 3C	2nd Book Graded SCDs	Blooms of Bon Accord	32R 4C, 4C set	Deeside Bk 2
Kangaroo Paw	32R 3C	Kangaroo Paw	Castle Douglas	32S 3C	12 Soc Dances
Bonnie Ina Campbell	32S 3C	RSCDS Bk 37	Jennifer's Jig	32J 3C	Silver City Bk
Bill Clement MBE	32J 3C	RSCDS Bk 47	Mrs MacLeod	32R 3C	RSCDS Bk 6

Desserts at Intermission

* *Gay Gordons*

Roaring Jelly	32J 3C	Glendarroch SD Sheets	Delvine Side	32S 3C	RSCDS Bk 2
The Kenora Reel	32R 3C	Bankhead Bk 2	Ellie's Jig	32J 3C	Slip Knot Collection
Minister on the Loch	32S 3C, 3C set	24 G&S Dances	The Chequered Hall	32S 2C 3C-Set	Wells House
The College Hornpipe	32R 3C	RSCDS Bk 20	Mairi's Wedding	40R 3C	22 SCDs

* *Waltz*

Sunday Ceilidh and Potluck Brunch
Hosted by Ruth Shaw
6 Cottage Street,
Belfast
May 25, 10 am-2 pm



For Party Information
David Thompson 207-469-3293 or
davidt26@myfairpoint.net
For Hospitality Contact
Kim Jacobs 207-722-3139 or
belfastclass@rscdsboston.org

2013-14 SEASON OF ADVANCED CLASSES

Do you want to know more about SCD, and be able to dance anywhere with complete confidence and enjoyment? Perhaps these classes are the answer to your question!!

Friday, February 21 Gregor Trinkaus-Randall Musician - Anne Hooper

Friday, March 21 Andy Taylor-Blenis

Friday, May 16 Kent Smith Musician - Terry Traub

Friday, June 20 TBA

Dancing to Live Music Time: 7:30-9:30 pm Cost is \$10.00 each class, students \$5.00

These classes are open to all who are high intermediate and above and who wish to improve their dancing, and most of all have fun doing this.

Location: Calvary Church, 300 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02474
(a white church, between the Capitol Cinema, Lake St. & Walgreens)

Further Info: call Evelyn Murray at 617-864-8945

SAVE THE DATE!!

April 12, 2014

The Montpelier Scottish Country Dancers invite you to join us for
a

∞ Social Dance & Potluck ∞

with music by

Peter Macfarlane, Joanne Garton and Aaron Marcus

Saturday, April 12, 2014

Capitol City Grange

Rte. 12, ½ mile south of Rt. 2, Montpelier VT

Walk-through 12 noon

Dancing 2 – 5:30 pm

A Potluck Supper will follow the dance

Information: Art Farnum 802-223-7483 or Martha Kent 802-879-7618;
mdkent@comcast.net



The Reel & Strathspey Society of Fairlee, Vermont *13th Annual* *SPRING FLING*

MUSIC BY

VIVEKA FOX, PETER MACFARLANE, & SUSIE PETROV

Saturday, May 17, 2014

Walk Through at 2:30 p.m., Potluck at 5:30 p.m., Dance at 7:00 p.m.

Fairlee Town Hall – 75 Town Common Road – Fairlee, Vermont

**Admission: Adults - \$11.00 (Branch Members) \$13.00 (Non-members), Under 18
- \$5.00**

*For more information, dance instructions, or to arrange hospitality, contact
Gary Apfel – (802) 439-3459 or FairleeClass@rscdsboston.org*

Dance instructions can also be found at <http://www.rscdsboston.org/FairleeSFMinicrib.p>



SDCEA Scholarship Dance



7:30 pm, March 1, 2014
First Parish Church in Weston
349 Boston Post Road, Weston, MA
Donation: \$20 (\$15 Students)


MCs: Jennifer Schoonover & Charles Liu Music : Anne Hooper, Beth Murray, Catherine Miller

Prince of Orange	16J Round the Room	RSCDS Book 6
Catch the Wind	8x32H 3C	R Butterfield, RSCDS Book 45
The Braes of Tulliemet	8x32S 3C	Castle Menzies, RSCDS Book 7
Scottish Reform	8x32J 2C	RSCDS Book 3
Saint John River	4x32S 4C	P Edwards, Centennial Collection
The Hamilton Rant	8x48R 3C	RSCDS Book 22
Ellie's Jig	8x32J 3C	M Briscoe, Slip Knot Collection
The Mercat Cross	3x32S 3C	J Dickson, Dunedin 3
J. B. Milne	8x32R 3C	H Foss, Angus Fitchet Album

Intermission

Kiss Under the Stairs	8x32J 3C	MMM 2
The Trysting Place	8x32S 2C	I Boyd, RSCDS Book 35
The Montgomeries' Rant	8x32R 3C	Castle Menzies, RSCDS Book 10
Pelorus Jack	8x32J 3C	B Skelton, RSCDS Book 41
The Minister on the Loch	3x32S 3C	R Goldring, Graded & Social Dances 1
Reel of the Royal Scots	8x32R 3C	R Goldring, RSCDS Leaflet 7

All proceeds benefit the RSCDS Boston Branch scholarship funds (Branch, Ed Rawson, Marianne Taylor Pinewoods, Buck Little Pinewoods, Izolde Lamont, and the Alan A. Smith Highland Funds).



CALENDAR OF SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCEπ EVENTS

March

- 1st *** SDCEA Annual Scholarship Dance, p. 6
- 21st *** Branch Advanced Class, with Andy Taylor-Blenis, p 4
- 22nd Toronto Br West End workshop with Jimmy Hill et al
- 28-30 Prince Edward County Tartan Tea weekend Ontario,
- 29th * Clan Donnachaidh Annual Mtg, including Susie Petrov and a SCD workshop

April

- 4-6 Helensburgh & District SCD Weekend
- 5th *** Book 47 workshop at the First Universalist Ch., Salem
- 5th *** Salem Dance Party, same location.
- 5th Toronto Br. 10th annual Youth Ball
- 5th * Highland Light (Cape Cod) Celebration of Tartan Day, p 13
- 6th * St. Andrew's Soc. MA celebration of Tartan Day, p 13
- 12th Montreal Br. Spring Dance
- 25-27 ** New England Folk Festival, Mansfield, MA. see below.

May

- 3rd * Concert: Alasdair Fraser and Natalie Haaa p 10
- 9-11 *** Boston Branch Annual Highland Ball Weekend, pp 3 & 15
- 16th *** Advanced Class with Kent Smith p 4
- 16-18 NY Branch Pawling weekdn
- 17th *** Fairlee Class, VT. Spring fling p 5
- 24th *** Belfast Class annual Memorial Day Weekende p 4

SAVE THE DATES

7-11 July ESS Pinewoods Session; 11-14 & 14-19 July Pinewoods Scottish Sessions, I & II
TAC Summer School & Music Course, July 27-Aug 3; Candidate Class, July 20-Aug 3; Conference
w/end July 25-27. All three events being held at the Univ. of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO

Code Breaker: "****" an event sponsored by the Boston Branch. "***" other SCD events within the Branch area. "*" of possible interest (often a Scottish Concert) within the Branch area.

Please support events; the class/branch/group members work hard to put together their event, the musicians spend a lot of time preparing the music and rehearsing, the teacher(s) spend anxious hours planning programs, class material, etc. They appreciate seeing that their labours are not in vain when they look at a hall full of dancers all ready to put their best right (?) foot forward.....!

New England Folk Festival April 25-27.

Held in the Mansfield (MA) High and Middle Schools. The Boston Br demonstration Team will be performing - usually on Sunday, the SRSNH also have a (to date) an unknown time slot. In addition, workshops, dance displays, ethnic foods, dancing both inside and outside (weather permitting), music on every corner and in every hall and classroom space, crafts and folk bazaar.... Go on line to neffa.org for more info and ticket sales. Support the organization by becoming a member of NEFFA.

CALENDAR FOR THE RSCDS BOSTON BRANCH 2013-14 {CLASS PARTIES, EVENTS, BALLS}

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
MARCH			
1	Scholarship Dance	First Parish Church, Weston, MA	Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, 978-897-3997 Trink68@uwalumni.com
APRIL			
5	Salem Class Party	First Universalist Church, Salem, MA	Mary Ellen Scannell, 617-462-1925 weebluets@rscdsboston.org
12	Montpelier Social and Potluck	Capitol City Grange Montpelier, VT 2:00-5:30 p.m.	Martha Kent, 802-879-7618 Art Farnum, 802-223-7483
MAY			
9-11	Highland Ball Weekend	Melrose and Weston, Massachusetts	Ed and Sara Pokrass, 508-362-5861 spokrass230@comcast.net
17	Fairlie Spring Fling	Town Hall, Fairlie, VT.	Gary Apfel, garyapfel@ gmail.com
24	Belfast Memorial Day Weekend party	American Legion Hall, Belfast, Maine	Dave Thompson, 207-469-3293 davidt26@myfairpoint.net
JUNE			
1	Northampton Class End of Season Party	First Churches, Northampton	Karen Lavallee-Tente, 413-527-3402
7	White Mountain Scottish Country Dancers Spring Frolic	Lancaster Town Hall, Lancaster, New Hampshire	Bill Tobin, 802-751-7671 billtobinharp@gmail.com
14	Kennebunk Class Down East Fling	Town Hall, Kennebunk, ME	Morven Troost, modatro@roadrunner.com
JULY			
7-11	English Scottish Session at Pinewoods	Pinewoods Camp, Plymouth, MA	Jerome Fung, jerome.fung@gmail.com
11-14 14-19	Scottish Sessions at Pinewoods	Pinewoods Camp, Plymouth, MA	Jeremy Thorpe and Kendra Eshleman

[PLEASE SEND ANY CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS TO NANCY RAWSON, 781-894-7754,
nrawson@earthlink.net]

SCOTTISH DANCE CLASS LOCATIONS

MASSACHUSETTS

- * Brookline: Sept-May, Sundays 6:30 pm, new location beginning January 12, 2014: Brookline Academy of Dance, 136 Westbourne Terrace, Brookline. Contact BrooklineClass@rscdsboston.org, Evelyn Murray, 617-864-8945; Heather Day, 617-244-6914
- Great Barrington: Wednesdays 7:15-9:15 pm, 39 Railroad St., Great Barrington (above Crystal Essence). Contact Jean Campbell, 518-672-4243 or Ted, 413-698-2944
- * Cambridge Class at the Canadian American Club: Year-round, most Mondays 7:45-10:15 pm, at the Canadian American Club (www.canadianamericanclub.com) 202 Arlington Street, Watertown. Beginners welcome! Contact Alex Bowers, CambridgeClass@rscdsboston.org
- Chelmsford: First Fridays year-round, 7-9 pm at the Chelmsford Community Center at 31 Princeton St, North Chelmsford, MA. Live music. Contact Rebecca Gore at rjgore@gmail.com or 508-574-1533
- Newton: Wednesday mornings 10:30 am - noon. Sept-May at The Hut, 69 Tyler Terrace, Newton (opposite Newton Center playground). June-Aug at the VFW Post 440, 295 California Street, Newton. Contact Heather Day, 617-244-6914
- * Northampton: Sept-May, Thursdays 7:00-9:30 pm, First Churches, 129 Main St. (Rt. 9), Northampton (enter on Center St. across from the Iron Horse). Contact Karen Lavallee-Tente, 413-527-3407
- * Salem (Wee Bluets): Year-round, Thursdays 8 pm, beginners at 7:30, First Universalist Church, 211 Bridge St., Salem. Contact MaryEllen Scannell, WeeBluets@rscdsboston.org, 781-462-1925
- * Stow: Sept-June, 2nd and 4th Fridays. New: childrens class 7:00, adult beginners 7:30, social dancing 8:00-10:30. Old Stow Town Hall, 375 Great Road, Stow. Contact Marcia Rising, 978-897-2466, marcia. mdrising@verizon.net
- Yarmouth: Thursdays 7:30 pm, Yarmouthport Congregational Church, 329 Main St (Rt. 6A), Yarmouthport. Contact Marla Menzies, 508-432-3711

MAINE

- * Belfast: Year-round, Mondays 7:30 pm, American Legion Hall, 143 High St., Belfast. Contact BelfastClass@rscdsboston.org; Kim Jacobs/Bob Klein, 207-722-3139; David Thompson, 207-469-3293
- * Brunswick: Sept-June, Thursdays 6:30 pm, Topsham Grange Hall, Pleasant St, Topsham. Contact Patti Tillotson, 207-833-2329, pstillotson@gmail.com
- Kennebunk: Sept-June, Sundays, 5:30-7:30 pm; Community House, Temple St., Kennebunkport. Contact Merrill Henderson, 207-839-8637, mhender1@maine.rr.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- * Greenland (Seacoast Dancers): Oct-June, Fridays 7:15 pm. Beginner's class upon demand. Greenland Parish Hall, Post Road (Route 151), Greenland. Contact Laurie Stevens, 603-380-2144, SeacoastDancers@rscdsboston.org
- Lancaster: Sept-June, Fridays 7:30 pm, Lancaster Town Hall. downtown Lancaster. Contact Bill Tobin, 802-751-7671
- * Nashua: Year-round, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Main St., Nashua. Contact Loren Wright, nashuascd@comcast.net, 603-891-2331

VERMONT

- * Fairlee: Sept-June, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Fairlee Town Hall, 75 Town Common Rd. (just off Route 5, Main St.). Contact Gary Apfel, FairleeClass@rscdsboston.org, 802-439-3459
- Manchester Center: Tuesdays 7-9 pm, First Congregational Church (on Route 7A, across from the Equinox Hotel). Contact Holly Sherman, 802-362-3471, hollyvalentine530@yahoo.com
- * Montpelier: Sept-May, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Union Elementary School, 1 Park Ave., Montpelier. Contact Martha Kent, 802-879-7618; Art and Sandy Farnum, 802-223-7483

NEW YORK

Albany: Sundays, 6:30 pm, Newbitz House, 85 Mann Blvd, Clifton Park. Contact Lois New or Cecil Lubitz 518-383-6580; loisanew@nycap.rr.com; clubi

- * Indicates classes sponsored by the Boston Branch, www.rscdsboston.org. Because of occasional weather and hall variabilities, etc, it's always advisable to get in touch in advance if you're not on a class contact list. To download this flier as a pdf, go to www.rscdsboston.org/FullFlyer.pdf. For updates, please email Classes@rscdsboston.org rev.bmco.12/24/13 tz@nycap.rr.com

MUSIC PAGE

April 12, Ceilidh Night sponsored by Highland Dance Boston, featuring Emerald Rae, www.highlanddanceboston.org.

May 3rd, Alasdair Fraser and Natalie Haas in concert, First Parish Church, Cambridge MA. www.alasdairfraser.com

The Strathspey and Reel Soc. NH is looking for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee they also have open positions on the board. Every year they sponsor an original tune for their repertoire. Due by March 1st, one tune only, send to Sylvia Miskoe best in pdf form to sylviamiskoe@aol.com and tell something about your tune.

PLEASE VOTE !!! Message from Rory Syme, Woodland Trust, Scotland

Niel Gow's oak on the bank of the River Tay near Dunkeld in Perthshire is Scotland's first entry to the European Tree of the Year contest. According to local legend this ancient oak, also known as the fiddle tree, is the one under which Gow wrote many of his fiddle tunes, which are still played today at ceilidhs and concerts around the world.

Scotland is competing against nine other countries in Europe and public voting is open until the end of February. At this early stage we are trailing in 6th place, but we are gradually gathering support and with your help I hope that we can secure a good result. Votes can be registered at www.treeoftheyear.org

If you are able to support the campaign in any way, through social media, on your website or in an email or notice to your members or other organisations that have similar interests, this would be a big boost to the campaign and help Scotland's chances.

Tree of the Year is an annual contest to find Europe's best loved trees. It aims to raise awareness of the cultural and natural value of ancient trees by finding and promoting examples with amazing stories to tell.

Singer and songwriter Dougie MacLean has offered his support to the campaign. I have attached some images of Dougie playing 'Farewell to Whisky' under the branches of the fiddle tree. You are free to use these to promote the vote in any way. (I couldn't get this pasted into this issue, TT editor).

Scotland is famous worldwide for many things, but two that stand out are its amazing natural wonders and the traditional music that forms a large part of our culture. Niel Gow's oak bridges these two worlds. I hope you can support our campaign and if you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

A recent issue of The Hunter Valley Branch, Australia's Newsletter, The Rant, recalled some views of Miss Milligan's visit to the branch some 40 years ago:

MISS MILLIGAN - from an editorial by Heinz Duewell, for The Rant, Dec. 1974

“ And there is that wonderful tree that grows in Scotland with its branches and twigs and its leaves, you and I” that is Miss Milligan's description of the Royal Scottish Country dance Society. It is a tree of enormously beneficial powers as it stands for something of everlasting quality. It is completely non-materialistic, it touches the human spirit and is part of it. As I sit here and watch the wind-whipped seas pounding the shore, one is reminded of the turbulence of the world today. A turbulence which, while often pretending to strive for good, expresses itself in horror, murder, war - testing human endurance to breaking point. How different the community united in its enjoyment of Scottish country Dancing! Here is something which takes us out of our selves and something we are sharing. This sharing is important, for it is a sharing that extends across the world and unites people from different nations. It opens doors of friendship in far-flung countries and as Miss Milligan says, it exerts a powerful stimulus for peace. Anyone who has travelled the world would readily appreciate this and a living demonstration is the annual family gathering at St. Andrews, better known as Summer School.

It has been an inspiration for many of us who were privileged to meet Miss Milligan on her recent first visit to the lands of the South. You might describe her as the apostle of Scottish Country dancing. She is that and more, and yet she is one of us. We are all equal in the best sense, an equality that elevates. Miss Milligan is exceedingly approachable and has a keen sense of humour. She spoke to us about the state of country dancing early this century and how she together with Mrs. Stewart of Fasnacloch revived the ailing body that country dancing was. The story has been splendidly told many times and we are all aware of how much alive Scottish Country Dancing is today. The Golden Age of Scottish Country Dancing is now as Hugh Foss ventured to say in his last publication. We all know who it is due to and our hearts go out in thanks to Miss Milligan, and may her spirit of kindness, peace, and friendship last forever.

Article from The Rant, Dec. 1974 by Batty Gemza

She came, she saw, she conquered! Who else, but Miss Milligan! Numerically a D.O.L. (Dear Old Lady) but the similarity began and ended right there. Who can forget the sight of Miss M. in the center of the Assembly Hall at Cardiff High School, clapping out the beat for almost 100 children encircling her for step practice. Or the breathless hush of those children as she spoke and reminisced. Could this vitality last?

Friday night at the Tech College Union the spell was cast once more as we listened to Miss M. Could there be more? Miss Milligan mounted the stairs of the stage (“all the better to see you all”). The men were invited to look at their partners “with pleasure” and “roguish twinkle” and then we were on our way to learning two dances. Perhaps we were not all brilliant at learning them but there was great pleasure from trying, encouraged all the time by Miss Milligan clapping and calling the beat, exhorting all the while “ad astra” (to the stars). I for one will never make it to the stars, but feel quite certain that Miss Milligan could bring them down for me. May the powers that be continue to smile down on her.

Gordon Stott wrote about her trip in Australia including her engagements in Sydney:

.....And so we say farewell, while Miss Milligan flew off to fresh fields - Adelaide, Canberra, Melbourne and Perth. One small old lady last seen heading westward to South Africa, thence to snow-covered Scotland, leaving us feeling pleased, exhausted and slightly stunned. Perhaps she is a cross between a sergeant-major and a purple people eater; perhaps she does reduce strong men to quivering blobs of jelly, but she is a lady to her toe nails (fully extended and turned out), and a wonderful ambassadress for her country and for Scottish dancing. May her shadow never grow shorter.

Some may find the Address to the Haggis by Robert Burns somewhat confusing. Understandable as it is written in the Scots language. This translation come via the New York branch's Archivist, Anne Lowenthal.

AULD LANG SYNE

This was published in their newsletter, following a NY Branch Burns Night some years ago. The occasion involved Walter Paton, the lovely hostesses Amilda Hadden and many volunteers who served the refreshments that gave the evening a real "Punch". Doris Weller provided backup with records in the event that the tapes went awry. Freddy Sverdlove devised the program. Since it can be difficult to catch the words of Burns "Address to the Haggis" at the Supper, here they are for you in a standard English translation from the Scots, thanks to the website of the Robert Burns World Foundation.

Fair Full your honest, jolly face,
Great Chieftain of the sausage race!
Above them all you take your place.
Stomach, tripe, or intestines;
Well are you worthy of a grace
As long as my arm.

The groaning trencher there you fill,
Your buttocks like a distant hill,
Your pin would help to mend a mill
In time of need,
While through your pores as the dew's distill
Like amber bead.

His knife see rustic Labour wipe,
And cut you up with ready slight,
Trenching your gushing entrails bright,
Like any ditch;
And then, O what a glorious sight,
Warm steaming, rich!

Then spoon for spoon, they stretch and
strive;
Devil take the hindmost, on they drive.
Till all their well swollen bellies by-and-by
Ar bent like drums;
Then old Master of the house, most like
to burst,
'The grace!' hums.

Is there that over his French ragout,
Or olio that would sicken a sow,
Or fricassee would make her throw-up
With perfect disgust
Looks down with sneering, scornful view
On such a dinner?

Poor devil! I see him over his trash,
As feeble as a withered rush,
His thin legs a good whip-lash,
His fist a nut;
Through bloody flood or field to dash,
Oh how unfit.

But take note of the haggis fed Scot
The trembling earth resounds his tread
Clasped in his large fist a blade
He'll make it whistle
And legs and arms and heads he will
cut off
Like the tops of thistles.

You powers who make mankind your care
And dish them out their meals
Old Scotland wants no watery food
That splashes in dishes
But if you wish her grateful prayer
Give her a haggis!



BOSTON BRANCH NEWS - Branch Classes

Exec has reinstated two classes and accepted the application of a third to be a branch class. The reinstated classes are Kennebunkport, ME, and Albany, NY. The new class to the branch listing is Newton. This class was started by Heather Day and is held Wednesday mornings and has filled a need in several ways. Great for anyone not wishing to drive at night, also more convenient for some one with freer time during the day than in the evenings. It has grown to more than one and a half sets and has achieved the Exec's requirement of at least eight participants of the class who are members of the branch. This is a requirement for all the classes listed on page nine marked with an asterisk. For more details about class requirements, etc. these are posted on the the web site.

Mike and Dawn Little asked that the following item about their class be included in this issue:

Stonington. ME – Year-round, Wednesdays 7pm. Island Community Center, off School Street, Stonington. Contact Mike Little 207-348-9308 or visit us on Facebook.

Boston Branch Bookstore News: Dawn and Mike Little have taken over the bookstore from Patti Tillotson. (I guess some Branch functions need to stay in Maine!) We have posted the inventory in pdf form on the Branch website. If you are looking for a book, you can see if we have it in stock. To order, send us an email and we will let you know the cost of the book(s) plus shipping (and Mass Sales Tax where applicable). When we receive your check, we will send out the book(s). If you want two-day mail or other specialties, please let us know. As far as stock goes, we have not added anything new except the New Manual and Book 47, and we have copies of all four of the new RSCDS compiled books (Books 1-6, 7-12, 13-18, and 19-24). We are looking for suggestions of CDs and books to add to the store, so please send your ideas to us.

EVENTS BOTH NEAR AND FAR.....

March 9, The Highland Light Society are holding “**Film in the Afternoon**”, 3:30-5:30 Light snacks and 2 short Scottish films, one on Burns and his time in Dumfries, and one of John Witherspoon, a Scottish Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

On **April 5th Tartan Day** celebration 11:30-3:30 Music, Dancing, Pipes and Drums. Meat pies and other goodies. Both events at the Yarmouthport Congregational Church, Rte 6A, Yarmouthport, Cape. Cod.

April 6th Tartan day celebration: Kirkin' of the Tartan at the Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, 111 High St., Raynham, MA at 3:30 pm. Sponsored by the St. Andrew's Soc.of MA.

and a significant and novel idea ---

Toronto Branch committee for this year's Tartan Ball has invited as their guest of honour Gail Nyberg. Gail is Executive Director of the Daily Bread Food Bank. At the Celtic Christmas Concert many of the branch members had raised \$550 for the Food Bank, and so the idea was born to bring the Food Bank to their significant event - the Tartan Ball. Gail is a dynamic woman who is changing the face of hunger in Toronto.

PEOPLE NEWS

News From Margaret Lepley:

Hanneke Cassel, who inspires us to dance and laugh at many Boston Branch events, had a joyous celebration of her own on January 4th, 2014, when she married Mike Block, a fantastic guy who adores her, just happens to play a rocking cello, sings, and if relatives are any indication he probably dances well too.

Guests arriving from all over the world endured flight cancellations, lost luggage, and sub-zero temperatures to join a celebration that was star-studded and yet totally family friendly: including a massive group potluck and guest participation in hall decoration and cleanup. Wearing a lovely dress made by Nancy Bell, Hanneke was feted with several new compositions in her honor and danced the night away to all sorts of music (Scottish ceilidh, pop, and Brazilian). Even the weather seemed to celebrate, with shining sunshine and a relatively 'warm' mid-20s.

Though it was a wedding of many superlatives, one key image was quieter: Mike holding Hanneke's hand, helping her through the tears, and then choking up himself when saying his vows. Congratulations and best wishes to Mike and Hanneke Block!

For some of the highlights, see Alfonso Franco's video montage at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2JHfs1hGGg>. And photographer Jason Jong caught wonderful photos that can be found on FaceBook.

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The TT Editor neglected to put this note into an earlier issue. Mea Culpa – really am sorry. **Daan and Morven Troost** thank all who attended our June Party to help us celebrate our 55th wedding anniversary. Six sets enjoyed the music of Highland Whisky. And many thanks to those who sent cards. It is heartwarming to be part of such a caring community of people.

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SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

Tuesday afternoons, at the All Saints Episcopal Church 44 Park Ave., Whitman, MA

Children 8 to 10 from 3:30–4:30 pm
Feb 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1 & 8

Children 11–14 from 5:00 to 6:00 pm
same dates.

Teacher: Priscilla Borden, RSCDS Certificated teacher with 20 years experience teaching SCD. \$8:00 per class or \$80 doe all twelve classes.
To register or for more information call or email Priscilla Borden, <ArachneAS@aol.com>
508–451–9301

2014 Boston Highland Ball Weekend, May 9-11, 2014

APPLICATION (due by April 30th) Mail this form with your check made payable to RSCDS Boston Branch to:

Sara Pokrass, P.O. Box 495, W. Barnstable, MA 02668

Checks must be in US currency, drawn on a US bank, or use money orders in US currency.

☺☺☺ SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AVAILABLE ☺☺☺ See Member Resources link at:

www.rscdsboston.org

Please include the name of each person attending as it should appear on the name tag.

NAME: _____ PHONE _____

email: _____ Dietary Consideration _____

NAME: _____ PHONE _____

email: _____ Dietary Consideration _____

ADDRESS: _____

Street

City

(State, Zip)

CHECK ONE: Please send Ball booklet in advance. _____ I will pick it up at the door. _____

Registration acknowledgement will be sent via email.

Saturday Evening Ball Ticket Includes: Saturday Ball, Dinner, Cocktails, & Sunday Brunch with more dancing.

We are working with Sandrino's Best of Thymes catering to provide a delicious buffet style gourmet meal.

SATURDAY EVENING BALL, May 10, 2014:

RSCDS Members \$75 x _____ = \$ _____

Non-Members \$80 x _____ = \$ _____

Full-Time Students (ages 16-24) \$50x _____ = \$ _____

Non-Dancers \$50x _____ = \$ _____

FRIDAY EVENING DANCE, May 9, 2014 (NOT included in Ball ticket price):

** Tickets for Friday dance can be purchased with this application OR at the door.

RSCDS Members \$13 x _____ = \$ _____

Non-Members \$15 x _____ = \$ _____

SUNDAY BRUNCH ONLY (INCLUDED with Saturday Ball ticket):

12 years old and up \$10x _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL: HOSPITALITY (Please make requests early .)

I / We CAN OFFER hospitality for: FRI _____ SAT _____ SUN _____ ALL _____

(Please note how many people you can host.)

I / We NEED hospitality for: FRI _____ SAT _____ SUN _____ ALL _____

Friday Welcome Dance : Finger food contributions are most welcome. Sunday Brunch : Boston Branch Dancers are encouraged to contribute generously to the Brunch.

I / We will contribute the following (please circle): Casserole ~ Fruit ~ Salad ~ Breads ~ Dessert Food should be ready to serve or require warming only. Please bring necessary serving dishes and utensils.

For updated information, go to: <http://rscdsboston.org/events-HighlandBall.html> or contact Sara Pokrass (spokrass230@comcast.net or 508-362-5861)

From: RSCDS BOSTON BRANCH
The Folk Arts Center
10 Franklin Street,
Stoneham, MA 02180-1852
781/438-4387

FIRST CLASS MAIL

COPY DUE DATE FOR THE MAY/JUNE 2014 ISSUE IS APRIL 1st. PLEASE SEND MATERIAL FOR YOUR SPRING AND EARLY SUMMER EVENTS TO THE EDITOR BY 4/1/14. DATES OF FUTURE EVENTS SHOULD ALSO GO TO NANCY RAWSON FOR THE BRANCH CALENDAR
Note: Class Events flyers are limited to 1 half page: 8 1/2” wide by 5 1/2 “ deep.
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ELIZABETH MACLACHLAN

Have you ever wondered about the person who put together the dances in *The Border Book*? I have, and also questioned why she is never mentioned by the RSCDS. A brief piece in the newsletter of the London (UK) Branch - *The Reel*, May- Aug, 2010, shed some light on the lady, and shows how important archives are in learning about past events and individuals. The RSCDS archivist, Marilyn Healy had found a rather poor photo and a report from the March 1936 issue of the *London Daily Sketch*. The photo is of an intelligent looking elderly lady, with a black lace covering for her hair. The article reads:
“Still an expert dancer at 79, a London woman is the leading figure in a new movement to revive Scottish folk dancing in London and the south of England. She is Mrs. Elizabeth Maclachlan, of St.Martin’s Lane, W.C., one of the best-known figures in the folk dancing world for more than half a century. Her plan is to organize teams of Scottish folk dancers to attend festivals throughout the country. Commenting on the fact that the English people seem to be cleverer at Scottish folk dancing than the Scots themselves, Mrs. Maclachlan observed that it is largely because the people of the south are more interested. “I can do a Cumberland Reel with the best,” she told me, “It is all a matter of keeping at it, and I don’t think I have ever given up dancing for any length of time since I was a young girl.” She is a qualified doctor, and for years lived in Harley Street. It is believed that relations with Miss Milligan were not the most cordial!”